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IMPACT 2000

Brotherhood panel begins two-year program study

By Mike Davis
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—The coming of the "information age," a possible split of the Southern Baptist Convention and further complexities in attracting volunteers were some of the predictions offered Dec. 13-16 to a select panel trying to project the direction of Brotherhood work to the year 2000.

IMPACT 2000, made up of state Brotherhood leaders and Brotherhood staff members, began a two-year study with a marathon input session in Memphis featuring authorities in culture, education, missions, religion, ethics, volunteerism, and religious and missions education.

Nolan Estes, director of graduate studies in education, University of Texas, predicted microcomputers will be the most important trend facing America in the next 10 years. The coming of microcomputers—the information age—promises to change the entire social and economic fabric of our society, he contends.

"You might even project making microcomputers available with your missions magazines," the former Royal Ambassador director suggested, adding that in Houston by 1985 students will do 50 percent of their homework with microcomputers.

Estes explained the Brotherhood Commission and other SBC agencies must be aware of the magnitude of the change which is being brought about by the transition from the print media to electronic media.

"Churches have to provide the leadership if we are going to control the new technology instead of being controlled by it," Estes told the panel, adding the Brotherhood Commission, especially in the Royal Ambassador program, could help youths clarify

Church historian says local autonomy and concern for missions might help avoid SBC split.

their values and help young people cope with change.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission noted a moral breakdown in America. "Without recovery of spiritual ideals, moral value, honesty, integrity, character, the worth of persons," he told the panel, "our country will not have much of an agenda." Valentine suggested Brotherhood leaders consider the crisis in family life a priority in their deliberations.

Bill O'Brien, executive vice president of the Foreign Mission Board, out-

lined some trends in missions with which the FMB will deal, including developing an urban strategy for world evangelization.

Church historian Bill Leonard of Southern Seminary told the group any consideration of the next 10 or 20 years should include the discussion of a possible split in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Leonard did not predict a split but noted if the convention stayed on its present course of controversy a split could be possible.

"As ideologists on the right gain increasing control of the convention agencies and seek to impose varying degree of theological uniformity, schism becomes increasingly inevitable," Leonard said.

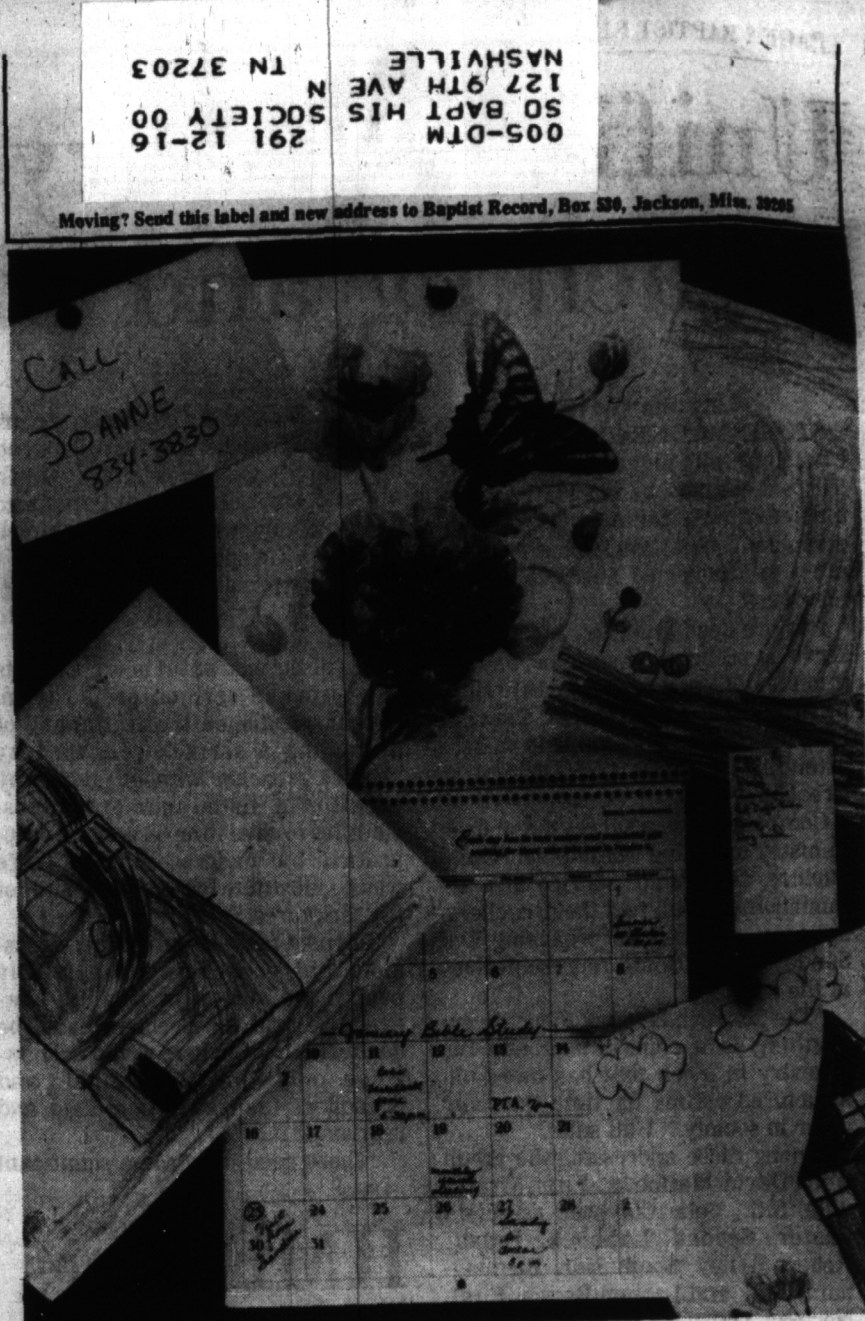
He listed three ways the convention could respond to the current controversy. One would be a split. Another could be for denominational leaders to try traditional methods of uniting the convention with "nebulous slogans and watchwords, refusing to confront the reality of a denominational identity and impending split."

A third response, Leonard offered, would be to seek a new denominationalism which allows for a classic unity in diversity which is

characteristic of Southern Baptists. Leonard added the convention's local autonomy and concern for missions might be keys to avoiding a split.

Charles Petty, aide to the governor of North Carolina in the area of volunteerism, praised the Brotherhood Commission for the men's and boys' work it has provided. Petty, a Royal Ambassador volunteer in the First Baptist Church of Raleigh, thanked the commission for what it had contributed to the lives of men and boys but warned that the commission and other agencies who rely on volunteers must look for new and better ways of recruiting and recognizing volunteers for their work.

(Continued on page 3)



January Bible Study

January Bible Study is a family affair. For adults this year's study is on 1 Peter and for youth, James. Photo by David Haywood.

Foreign Board launches All-India mission effort

By Anita Bowden

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—After 20 years of concentrating work in one area of the country the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board is launching an effort to expand work to all of India.

The plan is to use Indian leadership to plant churches in areas where no other Baptist groups have work and to cooperate where possible with other Baptist organizations.

Part of the plan includes the Foreign Mission Board taking over work currently being done by independent Baptist organizations based in the United States. One such group is Universal Concern Foundation of Yazoo City, Miss., organized in the mid-1970s with Owen Cooper as president.

Indians' response to the gospel has been encouraging in recent years with Southern Baptist-related churches increasing from 13 in 1979 to 46 in 1982. India, the second most populous nation in the world, with 713 million people, "has far more people who need a gospel witness than any other country

we're working with," said Bill Wakefield, Foreign Mission Board director for south and southeast Asia.

But because the Indian government does not issue resident visas to missionary evangelists, the board has concentrated on benevolent and educational ministries, most notably the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore.

Now priorities are shifting to help the national churches reach out more through Southern Baptist assistance in training and other support methods.

Under the new emphasis the Foreign Mission Board and Southern Baptist missionaries would train Indian Baptists in church planting methods; assist in training lay people to be church leaders so the Indian church planters would be free to leave the fledgling churches and move to new areas and be open to fraternal relationships with other Baptist groups through coordinating training and providing support such as literature.

Universal Concern Foundation has sent groups of interested pastors and lay people to India for short evangelis-

tic efforts and has supported Indian Baptist evangelists through an Indian-based subsidiary, Universal Concern India. The intention was to create self-supporting Baptist churches in areas where there was no Baptist witness, Cooper said. Though the group now has 10 to 15 preaching points, the work has not become self-supporting.

"When we started this we hoped the Foreign Mission Board would take it over some day," said Cooper, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and retired president of Mississippi Chemical Corporation. "I'm delighted that the board is taking this step."

Working with the Foreign Mission Board the foundation has agreed to phase out its programs in India over the next five years beginning in the summer of 1983 with work in Bombay.

The Foreign Mission Board also plans to expand relief and community development work in India.

(Anita Bowden writes for the FMB.)

Baptist women's task force recommends to Commission

By Duann Kier

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—A seven-member task force on women in Southern Baptist life, named by the Christian Life Commission, has made recommendations to the moral concerns agency to enhance the status and responsibilities of women in the 13.8 million member denomination.

Proposals include an information service on women who are employed or who are seeking employment in church-related vocations, production of educational resource materials on issues related to women and an enlarged program to provide information on women's issues to state Baptist

papers and denominational publications.

Members of the task force which met for two days were T. B. Maston, professor emeritus of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas; Sarah Frances Anders, chairperson of the sociology department of Louisiana College in Pineville; James Flamm, pastor of First Baptist Church in Abilene, Texas; and Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union.

Other members included Darold Morgan, executive director of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board;

Patsy Ayres, active layperson from Sewanee, Tenn., and David Matthews, pastor of First Baptist Church in Greenville, S.C., also chairman of the Christian Life Commission.

Other recommendations include requests for the commission to consider establishing regular lines of communication for women in ministry and also to consider taking the leadership in sponsoring national meetings for Southern Baptists who share these concerns.

Members of the task force encouraged the ethics agency to sensitize Southern Baptists to the discrepancies in employment positions and wages between women and men and also to point out that many local churches fail to include their female employees in Annuity Board retirement plans.

"Not Anti-Family"

During the meeting task force members recommended the commission produce and market as widely as possible a study guide and a series of pamphlets on issues related to women.

Weatherford pointed out the task force discussions had continually expressed concern for women in the home and for the family in general. "Women who are employed are also still women in the home. We are not anti-family."

Members of the task force highlighted the need to maintain current lists of women who are ordained or commissioned for full-time Christian service, churches which have ordained women deacons, and women in professional church-related vocations who are not ordained. The task force also encouraged the commission to offer resources to support the seminaries in providing improved opportunities for women.

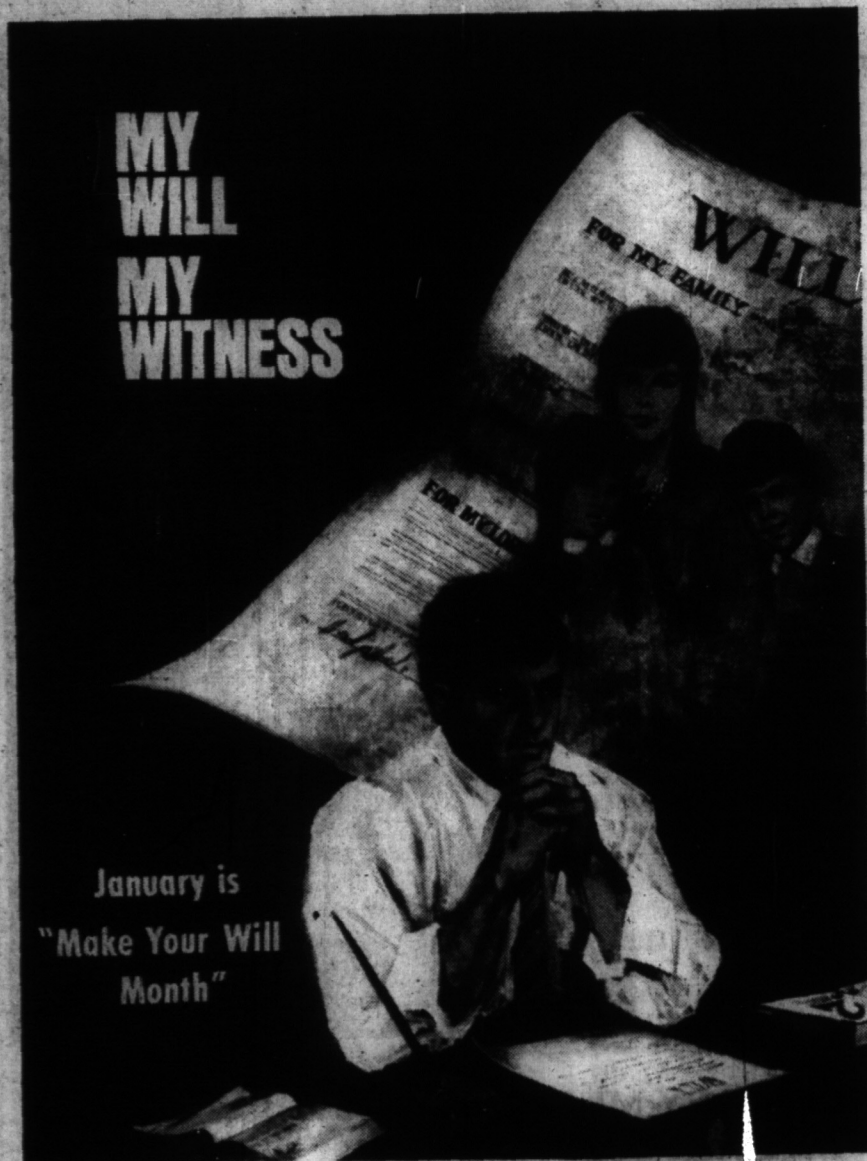
Anders, who as a sociologist has maintained an ongoing study of women in Southern Baptist life, said Southern Baptists should overcome their use of sexist language. The task force commended those local churches, state conventions, and other agencies, particularly the Baptist Sunday School Board, which have shown special sensitivity to women's concerns and women's issues.

Task force members took note of the fact that more than one-half of foreign mission appointees are women.

"In foreign missions we are using more completely and fully the gift of our women than at home," said Flamm, pastor of a 5,000-member congregation. Weatherford observed that many of these women serve in countries where Baptists are much more conservative and women are much less accepted than in our own country.

The task force also recommended the need for regional meetings to

(Continued on page 3)



"My Will, My Witness"

By Harold Kitchings, executive director
Mississippi Baptist Foundation

The theme being used by Mississippi Baptists for the January "Make Your Will Month" bulletin insert is "My Will, My Witness." The poster portrayed above in the Baptist Record emphasizes the highlights on the back page of the insert.

Obviously, one's family is of primary concern when one considers hav-

ing a will drawn. With a properly written will, one has the privilege of proving his love for his family.

A will also offers the opportunity to the Christian to serve as a positive witness that his love for the Lord will continue in a tangible manner even after he has gone to be with the Lord.

Take care of this matter now, because when you need a will it is too late to have one prepared.

What's Inside

Editorials by Don McGregor, Page 4

A clean new sheet

A bit of the Rio de la Plata

Faces and Places by Anne McWilliams, Page 4

Still water runs deep

Mixing preaching and planning, Page 2

Postage increases "normal," Page 3

Mississippian among volunteers to Yemen

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board dispatched a five-person disaster response team to Jibla, Yemen, Dec. 20, including a Mississippian, just a week after an earthquake took at least 1,500 lives and left many other persons injured and homeless.

The board also released \$50,000 in hunger relief and \$20,000 in general relief funds for Yemen, the latter to be used at Baptist Hospital in Jibla, where the team will work for as long as a month.

The response team includes two orthopedic specialists, two registered nurses and an aide. Three members, Weems R. McArthur, Panama City, Fla., and nurses Sue Ann Holland, Gulfport, Miss., and Beverlyann Milam, Jackson, Tenn., were to spend the holidays separated from their families. The nurses were both former journeymen to Yemen.

The other doctor, Donald E. Pearson, Orlando, Fla., and the aide, Pearson's 16-year-old son, Jeffrey, were to keep the commitment they made even before the earthquake rolled across Yemen—to spend some time with each other over the holidays.

When the appeal came for a team to go to Yemen the Pearson family, which also includes Jeffrey's mother and three sisters, agreed Pearson

should participate but he should also keep his commitment to Jeffrey. The solution: Jeffrey would accompany the team as an aide, traveling at the family's expense.

The earthquake, the worse in Yemen in 16 centuries, hit a mountainous region about 60 miles north of Jibla on Dec. 13 leveling several villages of sun-baked brick dwellings and heavily damaging many more. (Details of quake on page 5.)

Shiloh aids flood victims

The Brotherhood of Shiloh Baptist Church, Alcorn Association, led the entire church to help the recent flood victims in an area around Diaz, Ark.

Working in conjunction with the Arkansas Baptist Brotherhood Department and the First Baptist Church of Diaz, Shiloh sent a \$500 money gift and delivered a truck load of furniture, food, and bedding to the stricken area.

This was done in the midst of the largest Lottie Moon Foreign Missions offering ever given by the Shiloh Church. Jimmy Williams is Brotherhood director and Horace C. Thomas is pastor.

Two BSUs share family

By Tim Nicholas

Baptist student work at William Carey College and at the University of Southern Mississippi have two things in common: Hattiesburg and the Hearon family.

Hattiesburg is the only Mississippi town with two Baptist student union programs and Tom and Bonnie Hearon are husband and wife who both do student work, but on different campuses.

Tom Hearon is director of religious activities at Carey and Bonnie Hearon is associate BSU director at Southern.

The couple had attended Southwestern Seminary together, but hadn't dated. They met at Glorieta in 1981 and married Dec. 19, 1981.

She had done student work in Texas, but was working at Carey as a secretary when contacted by the Department of Student Work for the associate's job. She was hired last June. That gave them six months to get adjusted to marriage and each other.

"There are not that many more problems than other working couples have," said Tom, "except we both have flexible working hours." That means they both have evening and weekend responsibilities. "Sometimes we had things on the same nights," said Bonnie of their first semester "together."

"I'd get jealous sometimes," said Tom. "One of my hopes was to present a family—husband and wife relationship—to my students." With Bonnie's workload and now her pregnancy (a baby is due in May) there isn't the time.

This fall they coordinated their weekends well. For fall retreats, they planned for the same weekend. The Baptist Student Union convention, "we kept our kids at the same hotel," said Bonnie.

"Sometimes the only way to be together," said Bonnie, "was to go to one another's BSU things."

Their jobs differ in both respon-

(Continued on page 2)

Unified ministry mixes preaching and planning

By Jim Lowry

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga. (BP)—Preaching, although a primary task of the pastor, must be integrated into a unified thrust for a church to accomplish crucial ministry efforts related to the varied needs of church members.

Pastors need a unified approach to serve as preacher, counselor, and administrator, according to Bill Hull, pastor of First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., and one of 19 pastors attending a recent Consultation on Preaching here.

Components of a successful church ministry including worship, outreach, nurture, fellowship, service and administration, Hull told the preachers, seminary professors of preaching, and Sunday School Board representatives at the meeting.

"The pastor has to try to relate everything to a coherent agenda for ministry in a job that has more unstructured claims for time than any other in society," Hull said.

Among those addressing the group were David Matthews, First, Greenville, S.C.; John Claypool, associate pastor, Secord, Lubbock, Texas; Robert Bailey, South Side, Birmingham, Ala.; and Lavonn Brown, First, Norman, Okla.

Relevance and faithfulness are two keys to preaching in the 1980s, according to Matthews. He said people today are striving for simplicity because they are bombarded daily by hucksters and quick fixers who mostly are long on promise and short on delivery. Sermons must not be just topical but speak the gospel to the understanding of the congregation.

Matthews issued a challenge of clarity to the preachers to be disciplined and simplify their preaching by focusing and purifying their message to promote understanding by church members. He added preachers have a credibility problem because of exaggerations, especially related to growth.

In a discussion about how short-cuts save time in sermon preparation, Brown questioned the legitimacy of preaching a sermon prepared by another preacher without giving any credit. He listed numerous possibilities to save time on sermon preparation, but underscored that there was no substitute for a lifelong study of the scriptures.

Claypool pointed out in the discussion that preachers have falsely pushed the idea of originality, however. He said the problem could be dealt with if preachers would acknowledge only God is original, and preachers take what God said and rearrange it.

"There need to be some significant

changes in preaching related to worship," commented Bailey. "We need to restore the thrust of God-centered worship where we worship God because of who he is, not because of what he can do for us."

"We are deceiving ourselves when worship is repetitive and unprepared," Bailey continued. Many churches have not had high expectations of worship services, which become an opportunity to prop up church programs and parade the skills of performers.

Altus Newell, who was pastor of St. Matthews, Louisville, when the sanctuary burned and is now pastor of First, Opelika, Ala., spoke to the consultation about preaching in the context of crisis. He advised preachers to keep lists of books, copies of sermons and important records in two different locations so if materials in one place are destroyed, the preacher does not lose valuable information.

(Lowry writes for the Baptist Sunday School Board.)

HMB votes to purchase World's Fair carillon

By Patti Stephenson

ATLANTA (BP)—In its December session, the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board shifted personnel assignments and voted to purchase the carillon and bell tower erected at the Baptist Pavilion

during the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn.

The carillon and bell tower will be installed on the Home Mission Board's property as a "visible and audible religious symbol" to the surrounding business community and to thousands of motorists who pass the HMB building daily on an adjacent interstate highway, according to William G. Tanner, HMB president. Funds for the purchase will be provided from the Cecil B. Day fund established in memory of the Days Inn founder.

The committee approved three staff changes related to the HMB's evangelism section. Joe L. Ford, director of the evangelism development division, was named associate vice president of evangelism. Fred E. White, director of the direct evangelism division, will fill Ford's position as director of evangelism development division. Bobby M. Sunderland, director of the mass evangelism department, was chosen to replace White as director of the direct evangelism division.

The executive committee also elected George W. Bullard Jr. assistant director of the metropolitan missions department. Bullard, a national consultant for the HMB's MEGA focus cities strategy since last year, will continue to assist major metropolitan associations in developing mission strategies for reaching cities above the million population mark.

In other action, the committee approved James O. Coldiron as a regional planning coordinator for Region II, which covers 10 states.

Fifty-two persons were appointed to home mission assignments including three missionaries, 13 missionary associates, two US-2ers and 34 who will receive pastoral assistance.

Among the missionaries are Richard and Anita Onarecker of Cape Coral, Fla. They will stay in Florida where he will work as a church starter in Palm Beach. He has been pastor of churches in Mississippi, Texas, Alabama and North Carolina and earned degrees from William Carey College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is a homemaker.

Patti Stephenson is HMB assistant news editor.)

No preacher can, at one and the same time, give the impression that he is clever and that God is might to save.—James Denney

capsules

Revival in Martinique Executions tripled

FORT-DE-FRANCE, Martinique — A revival which led six young people to know Christ as personal savior has brought new life to the Bon Berger (Good Shepherd) Baptist Church in Fort-de-France, Martinique. Average church attendance jumped from 15 to 40 after the week-long revival, led by Southern Baptist missionary Weyne Frederick from Guadeloupe, a Mississippi. The 15 young people, who now regularly attend worship services have started a weekly Young People's Club.

GGBTS music wins

MILL VALLEY, CALIF.—The church music program at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary has won accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Music.

According to W. Morgan Patterson, dean of academic affairs at Golden Gate, the seminary was awarded associate membership status.

New Honduras churches

TRUJILLO, Honduras—Two new churches have been organized in the lower Aguan Valley in Honduras, bringing the total to 38 churches in the Honduras Baptist Convention. The two new churches were missions of First Baptist Church, Trujillo. Baptismal services preceded organizational services at both Lerida and El Coco.

A wedding ceremony highlighted the El Coco service where two newly baptized members reaffirmed vows they had said in a civil ceremony. They were married in order to be baptized and become members of the church; they had lived together in a common law arrangement and had several children before becoming Christians.

Extension grows

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—An increased number of students in 10 states outside traditional Southern Baptist Convention territory were part of more than 9,000 persons enrolled for study through the Seminary Extension department during 1981-82.

Students engaged in theological studies in local Seminary Extension centers or in correspondence work with the department's Independent Study Institute could be found in 49 of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and 18 foreign countries, according to statistics for the year during July 31, 1982.

In Indiana the number of Seminary Extension students doubled, jumping from 72 in 1981 to 145 this past year. And in the Northwest, Washington, and Oregon together went from 60 to 106.

A total of 9,049 students accounted for 14,857 course enrollments throughout the seminary extension system. A majority of these studied in a network of 391 centers operated by the seminary extension department in cooperation with Baptist associations and other local entities.

Establish biblical priorities

Baptists want to be a meaningful part of a meaningful effort. No greater effort has ever been launched by a Christian group than the effort to share our Christian faith with every person in the world by A.D. 2000. We are the first generation of Christians with the technical ability and potential financial resources to accomplish such a task.

To help our people establish biblical priorities in their family budgets, to wean them away from covetousness, to help them avoid the deceitfulness of riches, and help them grow in their love for Christ and the church, we must commit all of our people to set aside at least a tithe for God's work. No greater danger lurks in the minds and hearts of our people than the spirit of covetousness, the inordinate desire for material things.

We can do our Christian people no greater service than to lead them to a serious commitment of themselves and their substance to the Lord. The paramount force of evil in this world

could have no greater success than when a church or its leaders fail to teach and commit the membership to remembering the source of their blessings weekly.

God's great love and concern for Israel was expressed through Moses in Deuteronomy: "And you shall remember all the way which the Lord your God has led you in the wilderness... Therefore, you shall keep the commandments of the Lord, to walk in his ways and to fear him... Beware lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his ordinances and his statutes which I am commanding you today; lest when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your heart becomes proud, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery," Deut. 8:2-14.

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Tom and Bonnie Heaton

Home Life sponsors family worship contest

NASHVILLE—Home Life magazine is sponsoring a family worship essay competition in conjunction with the 1983 strengthen families emphasis on "Families: Opening the Word Together."

Personal testimonies must be entitled "What Family Worship and Bible Study in the Home Mean to Me and My Family."

Deadline for entries is July 1, 1983. All entries must be typewritten, double-spaced and limited to 1,200 words or less.

Two BSUs share one family

(Continued from page 1)

sibilities and in the way things are done on a Baptist and a state campus.

As Carey's director of religious activities, Tom is in charge of BSU, plus other religious related responsibilities such as weekly chapel for the school. Bonnie, as associate at USM, is in charge of work with internationals, fine arts (drama, music, and puppet teams), discipleship and evangelism, plus a new responsibility in community missions, which will attempt ministries such as Backyard Bible Clubs.

Differences in the way things are done are most visible in the fact the state campus has a BSU center, while the Baptist campus does not. "There's a difference in the way you meet students and the way you keep students," said Tom.

"On a Baptist campus, everyone is considered a part of BSU," said Bonnie.

On a secular campus, they said, it is easier for a student to get caught up in other routines and BSU is one of the few places a student can turn for solid Christian influence or support.

But in a Baptist school, support can be found in the faculty, administration, and in other students on campus.

This past summer, Tom attended the first meeting for directors of religious activities, sponsored by the Christian Education Commission, where common problems were discussed. "One sentiment was that BSU is not meeting the needs exactly on the Baptist campus," said Tom. "Some said perhaps there are other problems on Baptist campuses that National Student Ministries, is not focused to approach." NSM is the program of student work assigned to the Sunday School Board.

"On Baptist campuses you find stu-

dents every bit as spiritual who do not identify with BSU as those who do," said Tom. "The problem we've got to solve is how to make BSU truly campus-wide."

The couple said they feel eventually they will be going into foreign missions as student workers overseas.

Tom said his greatest satisfaction in his work is "seeing a student make a

spiritual commitment that has cost a sacrifice, a reversal, coming to grips with God and opting for God."

Bonnie said hers was "being out on campus... and really sensing there is a spiritual need and challenging other students to do the same thing, and in counseling, that one on one contact with people."

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 - 11:45 a.m. — Serving starts for dinner on the grounds in the gym
 - 1:00 p.m. — Service of Celebration
- Speakers**
- Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, pastor of First Baptist Church when Broadmoor was organized, retired Executive Secretary of Mississippi Baptist Convention.
 - Dr. Gordon Sansing, first pastor of Broadmoor.
 - Dr. James Yates, President, Mississippi Baptist Convention.
 - 2:00 p.m. — Film of Broadmoor Baptist Church History.



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Non-profit postal rates face 'normal' increase

By Larry Chesser
WASHINGTON (BP)—Preferred-rate mailers such as Baptist state papers face only a one-step increase in postal rates following congressional passage of a catchall funding measure to keep most government agencies running through fiscal 1983.

In contrast to the stop-gap funding bill Congress passed late last year which doubled postage costs for state papers and a wide range of other non-profit mailer, this year's version calls for a normal annual increase in preferred rates to be maintained through Sept. 30, 1983.

Specifically, non-profit rates will be maintained at step 14 of a 16-year phasing process Congress began in 1970 to adjust these rates toward full attributable costs in annual increments. Due

to a shortfall in the 1982 funding of the postal subsidy, the phasing was eliminated last January, causing rates to leap from step 10 to step 16. But last summer, Congress appropriated additional funds for the subsidy, bringing rates back to step 13.

In its version of the stop-gap funding measure, the Senate decided to keep the rates at step 14 and Senate-House conferees agreed to the Senate version. This means cost estimates for the subsidy at \$39 million, well above the \$500 million recommended by the original administration budget which would have pushed rates beyond the step 16 levels.

Though the cost of moving to step 14 will vary among non-profit mailers, the increase will be in line with previous rate hikes under the phasing pro-

cess.

For The Baptist Record, the new rates will involve a 16 percent increase in postage costs, according to Editor Don McGregor.

McGregor, who was president of the Southern Baptist Press Association when rates skyrocketed a year ago and has continued to monitor the rate situation, said his annual cost will climb from \$215,252 to \$250,094.

"I'm pleased," he said. "It's a whole lot better than it could have been." Despite the fact that the phasing process is still two years ahead of schedule, McGregor said in light of last January's action, this year's funding level of the subsidy "is not a bad solution to the problem."

(Chesser writes for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.)

B'hood panel begins study

(Continued from page 1)

Other speakers, including Jerry Michel, chairman of the department of sociology at Memphis State University; Rex Enoch, director of international studies at Memphis State; Dean Hoge, professor of sociology, Catholic University, Washington, D.C.; James Hyde, director of the family life counseling center at Baptist Hospital in Fayetteville, N.C., and Bill Clemmons, professor of missions at Southeastern Seminary, outlined trends in religious admissions education, culture, society and human development.

IMPACT 2000 will study Baptist Men and Royal Ambassador programs in light of the December input and in light of input from a session scheduled for April 1983 and will make recommendations for program modification to the Brotherhood Commission 1985.

State Brotherhood leaders involved in the study include Lloyd Jackson, Virginia, co-chairman of IMPACT 2000; Bob Dixon, Texas; Kenny Rains, Tennessee; Ron Martin, Ohio; David Langford, North Carolina; Paul McCullough, Oklahoma; Gene Daily, Georgia; Cliff Saterwhite, South Carolina; and Cal Jones, Louisiana.

(Davis is the Brotherhood Commission's Marketing Services director.)

Southwestern confers diplomas

FORT WORTH, Texas—Southwestern Seminary President Russell H. Dilday Jr. conferred 290 degrees on 288 graduates during winter commencement Dec. 17.

The 288 graduates, which include Dilday's son, Robert, is the largest winter graduating class in the seminary's 75-year history. The 10 a.m. commencement was at Travis Avenue Baptist Church.

Ben M. Elrod, president of Georgetown, Ky., College and a Southwestern trustee, delivered the commencement address.

Graduating students with Mississippi ties included:

Michael Lynn Bailey, MDiv, home church: FBC, Senatobia; William R. Buntin, MRE, home church: FBC, Batesville; Richard A. Harvey, MRE, home church: FBC, Yazoo City; William L. Hoggatt, MDiv, home church: Halbert Heights, Brookhaven; Richard Henry Malone Jr., MDiv, home church: FBC, Jackson; Rickey E. McPherson, MRE, home church: FBC, Stonewall; Jeffrey L. Powell, MDiv, home church: Parkway, Jackson; Terry M. Richey, MRE, home church: First, Tupelo; Charles D. Smith, MRE, home church: FBC, Ellisville; Austin Wayne Vandiver, MRE, home church: FBC, Corinth; and Terry W. White, MDiv, home church: Petal-Harvey, Petal.

Women's task force

(Continued from page 1)

communicate with pastors regarding women's issues and the need for additional support services from the commission with regard to women.

"Our God is not a male chauvinist," said Foy Valentine, executive director of the commission. "The Bible is not a male chauvinist book. Our Baptist commitment to the priesthood of the believer cannot condone either male chauvinism or any other kind of prejudice toward persons made in God's image and for whom Christ died."

(Duann Kier writes for the Christian Life Commission.)

If we all become more Christlike, we shall not need any other bait.—Frank Crossley

Some wish to live within the sound of church or chapel bell. I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.—Charles T. Studd

Court asked to strike tuition tax deduction

By Stan Hastey
WASHINGTON (BP)—Acting on a longstanding position against tax aid for non-public schools, a Baptist church-state agency has filed a legal brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to strike down a Minnesota law that allows tuition tax deductions to parents who send their children to such institutions.

Written and filed by Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs general counsel John W. Baker, the "friend-of-the-court" brief declares: "When public funds, which are collected from all taxpayers regardless of religious belief or lack of religious belief, are used to aid, either directly or indirectly, elementary and secondary schools which teach religion, all taxpayers are compelled to assist in the support of that teaching of religion."

The brief argues that in drafting the First Amendment to the Constitution the nation's founders were seeking to prohibit any form of compulsory religion backed by the power of government.

Noting "the principle of religious liberty antedates the American republic," Baker quotes early Baptist leader Roger Williams of Rhode Island who wrote in The Bloudy Tenent of Persecution (using the Old English spelling) that "Forced worship is a stink in the nostrils of God."

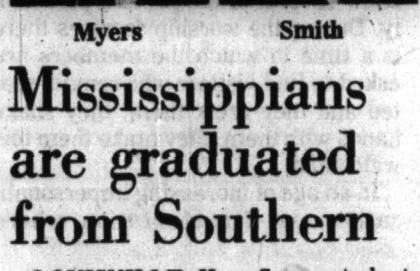
Specifically at issue in the Minnesota high court test is a 1978 law allowing a \$500 state income tax deduc-

tion per child to parents who pay tuition to private elementary schools. For a child enrolled in a private secondary school the deduction is \$700.

(Hastey writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.)



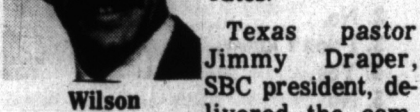
Myers



Smith

Mississippians are graduated from Southern

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Seven students from Mississippi were among 220 awarded degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary during the school's 150th commencement Dec. 17. Four of the seven got doctorates.



Wilson

Texas pastor Jimmy Draper, SBC president, delivered the commencement address.

Mississippi graduates included the following: Master of Church Music—Stephen P. Deornellas, Columbia; Master of Divinity—Arnold Lee Chavers, Jackson; David Andrew Langston, Jackson; Doctor of Ministry—David Al Myers, Jackson; Marvin Powell Nail; Frank Hart Smith; Doctor of Philosophy—Richard Francis Wilson, Jackson. (Photo of Nail was not available.)

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Thursday, January 6, 1983

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3



LANDRUM P. LEAVELL, left, president of New Orleans Seminary, meets Mississippi doctoral graduates Jerry Norman Barlow, Walter E. Brown, James Randall O'Brien and Gary M. Breland prior to Dec. 18 exercises at the seminary. The four doctoral graduates joined over 125 other persons receiving diplomas during the mid-year graduation exercises. Barlow is pastor, First Baptist Church, Franklin, La. He is from Petal, Miss. and received a doctorate in theology. O'Brien, from Indianapolis, also got a Th.D.; he is a faculty member at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. Breland, from Wiggins, who received a doctor of education degree, is pastor at Calvary Church, Silver Creek, Miss. Brown, assistant professor of religion at William Carey College, received a doctorate in theology. He is a native of Saitillo, Westwego, La.), MRE;

19 from state receive degrees in New Orleans

Nineteen from Mississippi were among the 130 who participated in mid-year graduation exercises at New Orleans Seminary Dec. 18. Those from this state who had earned doctorates are pictured above. Others who got degrees were the following:

Barbara Bryant, Vicksburg, MRE; Larry Ray Wagner, Jackson, MRE (he is administrative assistant to the director of field education at the seminary); Dionne LaRue Williams, from Poplarville minister of music, youth, and education at Union Baptist Church, Picayune, MRE; Thomas D. Miller, of Pascagoula, associate pastor at Eastlawn Baptist Church, Pascagoula, MRE; Mary Ann Jefferson Bogan, of Columbia (a special education teacher at Worley Middle School,

Melinda E. Dixon, Liberty, MRE; Donald John Wilton, from Margate, South Africa, who was formerly on the staff of First Baptist Church, Columbia, Miss. and is now pastor of First Baptist Church, White Castle, La., master of divinity; Randall Lewis Von Kanel, from Pascagoula, pastor at Temple Baptist Church, Big Point, Miss., master of divinity; William R. Townsend, Jr., Jackson, master of divinity;

Jeffrey R. Parker, native of Cruger, pastor of Cruger Baptist Church, master of divinity; Douglas R. Harden, from Meridian, associate pastor at First Baptist Church, Hanville, La., master of divinity; John Adam Giddens, III, from Avon Park, Fla., pastor at First Baptist Church, Minter City, Miss., master of divinity; Vernon Wayne Polk, Jr., native of Picayune, master of church music; Jay Vincent Sutton, Meridian, associate of divinity; Frank Edward Bowers, of Houston, Tex., minister of music and youth at Centerville Baptist Church, Centerville, Miss., master of divinity.

Service urged to cancel Luther stamp

WASHINGTON (EP)—Americans United for Separation of Church and State has urged U.S. Postmaster General William F. Bolger to cancel plans to issue a commemorative stamp in 1983 honoring the 500th anniversary of German theologian Martin Luther.

In a December 1 letter to Bolger, Americans United Executive Director W. Melvin Adams said such a stamp would "violate the constitutional ban on the establishment of religion and the Postal Service's own guidelines on the issuance of commemoratives."

"While we readily concede that Martin Luther had an important impact on secular history, he is known primarily for his religious works," wrote Adams. "...the celebration of this theological tradition should be the concern of those who share its religious significance, not the concern of the U.S. government which should be neutral in matters of religious faith," he added.

Noting Luther's harsh language toward other religious groups such as Jews, Anabaptists, and Catholics, Adams urged that the government not give the implication of its approval of such rhetoric.

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The Prewitts



The Southerlands

Photos switched

In the Dec. 23 issue of the Baptist Record, these two photos were switched. Carl and Lillian Prewitt, missionaries to the Philippines, are pictured here at left. David and Mary Southerland, missionaries to Belgium, are pictured here at right.

October and November gifts up \$1.5 million

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptists gave \$15,357,398 to national and worldwide mission and education efforts in October and November—an increase of almost \$1.5 million over the same two months last year.

November, the second month of the Southern Baptist Convention fiscal year, produced gifts of \$7,385,139 to the Cooperative Program, the unified giving plan of the SBC, for an increase of 5.13 percent.

That left the Cooperative Program \$1,495,123 (10.79 percent) ahead of the figures for October-November of 1981.

Individual figures from the 34 state conventions are not meaningful since there are still 10 months left in the fiscal year.

cal year by nine conventions show an increase of 30 percent or more in their contributions from a year ago.

Northern Plains (made up of Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota) has contributed \$40,560 after sending in \$7,524 in October-November 1981, (and just \$57,796 the entire year). Colorado's first two months total \$52,151 compared to \$27,051 last year. Nine conventions are behind last year's giving rate.

1st, Long Beach celebrates Super Sunday School

First Baptist Church, Long Beach is celebrating Super Sunday School during January, using the NFL Super Bowl as the theme. Classes will be awarded points for new members, visitors, reported contacts and participation in weekly visitation. January 30, Super Bowl Sunday, will be high attendance day with a goal of 600. The class with the largest number of points during the month will receive a football shaped plaque.

Special guests for the month will include Frank Stagg, retired New Testament professor at Southern Seminary, teaching 1 Peter in January Bible Study, Jan. 9-12 at 7 p.m. Youth will study the book of James in a retreat on Jan. 29.

Diann Evans, Miss Mississippi and second alternate for Miss America 1983, will be the guest worship leader on January 9.

The church's theme for the '82-'83 church year is "Growing and winning," based on Acts 6:7. The Sunday School enrollment and weekly attendance increased by more than 100 in the last year.

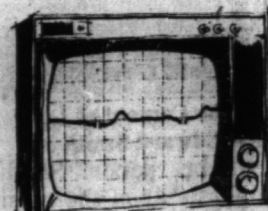
Session to say how to manage money

All members of church staffs and their spouses are invited to a Money Management Seminar, Jan. 27 in the Skyroom of the Baptist Building in Jackson.

The session will last from 9:30 a.m. to 3 that afternoon, with Bonita Bridges as director. She is area consumer manager, a specialist with the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service.

Julius Thompson of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion department says that resources and models will be shared to enable participants to lead money management seminars in local churches.

Reservations are required in order to plan for preparation of lunch and have adequate materials on hand. Write Thompson at Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or phone 968-3800.



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Simple guidelines for parenting

In our church and community, it seems that many parents don't seem to care very much or know much about their children, especially what junior or senior high youth are doing. Does the Bible give any simple guidelines for parenting?

Concerned Sunday School teacher Deuteronomy 6:4-9 places the responsibility on parents for teaching their children in the home on the basis of their own experience. "Commandments are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children." Further, parents are to teach constantly, consistently, and in conspicuous ways. Ephesians 6:1-4 echoes the same idea with the admonition of children to obey their parents in the Lord.

Today's youth are often given privileges without responsibility or being accountable to their parents.

Christian parents should teach that trust must be earned by the youth accepting responsibility and being accountable. When parents set limits in love and the youth knows what the limits are, he/she feels more secure than when matters are decided by momentary whims of the parent. When parents set a good example in being accountable to each other, keeping promises to their children, etc., it is easier for the children to follow. See Psalm 81:3-7 TEV.

The late television message to parents "Do you know where your children are?" might well be changed to "Children, do you know where your parents are?"

Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Missionaries on furlough

Mississippi missionaries now on furlough are:

Major and June McDaniel, Korea, 818 Main St., Natchez; Charles and Dianne Deever, Ivory Coast, Pine Trails Town Houses, Apt. M-5, Clinton; Emogene Harris, Nigeria, Route 2, Box 281, Brandon; Thomas and Hazel Barron, Indonesia, 407 N. 38th Ave., Hattiesburg;

John and Jean Jacobs, Trinidad; 5746 Cherokee Drive, Walls; Elizabeth and John Merritt, Germany, 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg; Robert and Ruby Williams, Niger Republic, 3331 Old Canton Road, Jackson; Thomas and Marilyn Nabors, Israel, 207 Washington, Starkville; Karl and Peggy Wallace, Peru, 715 E. Northside Dr., Jackson; Martha and Richard Beal, Venezuela, 416 Ford, Columbia; Robert and Flora Holfield, Italy, 2334 Coronet Place, Jackson; John and Sarah Perkins, France, 5317 McCoy Dr., Jackson.

Ann and Raymond Kolb were arriving from Brazil, and Russell and Annette Herrington were arriving from Costa Rica in December.

Editorials

A clean, new sheet

We all have turned over a new leaf, now; and it remains to be seen what will be written on it before this new year comes to an end. None of us, regardless of how noble our intentions, will be able to have everything that is written to be just what we want it to be; nor can we feel that everything will be of such nature that it will honor the Lord.

That is the reason that the Son was sacrificed — so that our shortcomings will not have to be counted against us. That doesn't mean we don't need to exercise extreme care as we determine what is to go on our clean, new sheets. If for no other reason, we need to be careful because to willfully cause our entries to be less than our best would be to fly in the face of the Lord.

who has provided salvation for us. Then we always have to remember that there is someone watching us. This should cause one to provide the best example possible in order not to cause another to go astray. This is a heavy responsibility and one that is not always handled well. Our page is before us. The challenge of the fresh start awaits us. It is ours to

make of it what we can or will. At the end of this year may our pages be filled with that which is worthy and God-honoring. Let us be careful all year to keep our pages in such condition that we will be willing for any to examine them.

... a workman that needeth not to be ashamed ...

A bit of the Rio de la Plata

Partnership missions with the countries of the Rio de la Plata came home to my church recently when in a period of a week and a half we had missionary speakers from two of those three countries.

As a way of refreshing the memory, the countries of the Rio de la Plata are Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay. The missionaries are Glen Johnson, missionary to Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Mr. and Mrs. Wally Poor, missionaries to Canelones, Uruguay.

All were guests in my home, and that was a rare privilege. To have the opportunity of visiting with these folks about their work was interesting and inspiring.

I had visited with both families on a trip to the Rio de la Plata about 20

months ago. At that time both of the men were the pastors of the most exciting churches in their countries.

Poor is not a preacher. He is a journalist, and we found immediate identification. He was pastor of the New Dawn Baptist Church in Montevideo at that time and doing an outstanding job. It was Uruguay's fastest growing. He said he didn't know what to do other than take Arthur Flake's principles of Sunday School growth and put them into practice. They worked.

Later he turned that work over to the associate pastor, Daniel Kernke, a Uruguayan, and moved onto a new field where there was no work. Back in the late summer Kernke was a speaker at our church also and had lunch at our house along with Diosnel Silva of Asuncion, Paraguay, then

president of the Paraguayan convention, and missionary Stanley Clark of Buenos Aires. That group had been to the Spanish Baptist Publishing House in El Paso for a MasterLife workshop; and they later helped to provide MasterLife leadership for missionaries and nationals from all three countries at Villa Bautista, the Baptist assembly in Argentina.

Anne McWilliams of the Baptist Record staff and other Mississippians went to Argentina for that week to help take care of the missionaries' children during the workshop.

After visiting New Dawn Church in Montevideo I visited Burzaco Church in Buenos Aires, where Johnson was pastor. It was an exciting congregation, made up to a great extent of

young people. Johnson has since turned that work over to a national also and will be starting a new work in an apartment complex when he returns to Buenos Aires after furlough.

Buenos Aires residents to a great extent live in high-rise apartments; and if avenues can be found to reaching them, a definite breakthrough will have been accomplished.

The missions partnership between Mississippi Baptists and the Baptists of the Rio de la Plata was made more vivid by the visits to Mississippi of these missionaries. Conversation proves that Baptists are about the same the world over. A visit to the Rio de la Plata, however, reveals a depth of commitment on the part of those Baptists that is truly inspiring.

Guest opinion

Thinking baptistically

By Alan Day

With all of the doctrinal debate going on among Southern Baptists today, I do not believe that we need to expend our energies haggling over issues that are inconsequential and mere matters of taste. Therefore, I am reluctant to address the issue at hand.

But, I haven't made an issue. The issue has already been raised, and hoping that it will not catch fire I am plodding ahead with a rebuttal to a recent "Guest Opinion" in THE BAPTIST RECORD. I am referring to the article entitled "Let's Reverse This Trend," by W. Levon Moore.

It condemns the practice of fellowshiping in worship services with the presence. "There is no question, however, as to the fact that if (that is, shaking hands and greeting visitors in the worship service) has a very negative effect on the spirit of worship in a church."

First, I disagree theologically. It is theologically inaccurate to define worship as a mere vertical relationship. Christian worship is not just individual piety. It is body life. Christian worship is not a bunch of individuals worshipping, but a spiritual body fellowshiping at the Lord's Table. Christian worship is a celebration of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a communal affair.

Our brother is working with a culturally conditioned concept of worship and does not recognize it. Missiologists tell us that one of the great strengths of Christianity and one of the reasons for its success around the world is its cultural adaptability. The content of the Gospel remains constant while the forms of worship change from place to place. It would be foolish to tell Black Baptists how they can and cannot worship. It would be foolish to try to make High Church People out of Jamaican Baptists, or African Baptists, or South American Baptists, or even some Mississippi Baptists.

Quality of worship is not dependent upon whether one is playing Mozart on a Mohler or Gaither with a guitar, or whether one stamps his feet along with Stamps Baxter.

Second, I disagree on biblical grounds. First of all, one must admit that the New Testament says very little regarding forms of worship. We can be thankful for that. This gives great freedom to any New Testament body to adapt its forms of worship to meet

the needs of the people to whom it is ministering. It is obvious from a study of the epistle, and the book of Acts, however, that there was a lot more personal interchange in the New Testament church worship experience than what Brother Moore is calling for. Sometimes the spontaneous involvement of the congregation got out of hand, as at Corinth, and guidelines had to be given. But, we would impose our modern concept of a worship service upon the New Testament if we would assume that when they met everyone was quiet, everyone sat in his place, stood only when there was an asterisk in the printed program, and only the preacher talked during the preaching time.

Thirdly, I disagree baptistically, to coin a word. One of the great strengths of Baptists has been our diversity. We have welcomed differences among our fellow Baptist churches.

Southern Baptist historian Walter Shurden has documented the historical and theological diversity of Southern Baptists which has helped shaped the Southern Baptist synthesis. He speaks of four traditions that have made us what we are today: the Charleston Tradition, the Sandy Creek Tradition, the Georgia Tradition, and the Tennessee Tradition. It is easy to see that aspects of these four traditions are still in existence. In various places Southern Baptist churches appear almost Presbyterian and high church. In some places there is revivalism and bilicism. In other places the Southern Baptist which gives the Convention a cultural identity is emphasized. In other places not limited to geography, the ecclesiological identity and narrow sectarianism of the Landmark Movement is still apparent. Our diversity has meant that

Southern Baptists churches have maintained a vast appeal to a wider variety of people. Persons with different gifts, concerns, and preferences in church life find congregations with reasonably compatible commitments, for Christian service. Within the same denominational tradition, often within the same geographical region, are churches whose approaches to doing the Gospel is extremely diverse, thereby reaching a greater number of individuals.

Fourthly, I disagree practically. I am holding in my hands a copy of the November 1982 issue of Facts and Trends published by our Sunday School Board. The lead article with the super-caption, "Growing Churches," is entitled, "Excitement Permeates Fellowship." The article is a description of nine churches which are growing at phenomenal rates in various parts of our country. The churches are doing many varied things, but the observer who did the study noticed that one thing stood out in all of these churches. That was the warm and friendly way in which visitors were greeted in and out of the worship services and in which new members were received. He spoke of the worship services as having "a high degree of excitement, joy, and celebration in the worship services—people are excited about what God is doing in their church." I have visited several of the churches mentioned in the study and know several of the pastors personally. During the worship services there is a time in which the members are asked to find visitors who remain seated and they greet them, they shake hands with them, they make them feel welcomed.

In an age of increasing impersonalization and fragmentation where

people have so little time to discover each other and so little time to fellowship, it would seem to me that the church not only has the right but the responsibility to adapt its worship services to provide a time of warmth, fellowship, and interchange among the many people who otherwise would just be faces in a mass of humanity.

I am not suggesting that every Southern Baptist church needs to have a time where members can formally greet one another, shake each other's hands, and welcome visitors. I am not saying that every church needs to hold hands during prayer.

The leadership of First Baptist Church of McComb, however, has seen fit to break down walls of impersonalization and has sought to incorporate a time of warmly greeting visitors in the worship services. I do not think that this is an "annoying antic" or "an obnoxious practice," or "an irreverent interruption of worship." This is the way that we reach out to people and say that we see in them the image of God, the people for whom Christ died, that we are brothers and sisters and are glad to be together in the presence of the risen Christ.

Alan Day is pastor of First Church, McComb.

Early heads trustees

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Morris Early, vice president of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith and manager of operations for the Nashville office, has been elected president of the board of directors of the Southern Baptist Foundation. He succeeds William E. Crook.

Letters to the Editor

Better to you?

Editor:

I read in the capsule section of your December 9 issue of the Baptist Record the account of the arrest of Andrae Crouch on Nov. 12. I also read the same article in the local paper.

I was saddened because I know this man loves the Lord.

I watched the papers carefully to see what the investigation revealed. Sure enough it came out in the local paper that no charges were filed against Mr. Crouch. This was days before your Dec. 9 account in the paper.

Don't you think it would have been better to wait until the investigation was over?

This looks like "sowing discord" to me.

Ruth Rogers
Utica

Editor:

I was very disappointed to see the article about Andrae Crouch in the Baptist Record and have the following questions for you:

1. Did you help the cause of Christ by printing this?
2. Did you help Andrae by printing this?
3. Do you believe that Jesus, if he were editor of a paper, would publish such an article?
4. Would you have done it if he were not "black" and Baptist?
5. Will you let your paper become the "Baptist Enquirer"?

Yes, I am white and Southern Baptist,

but not very proud of it at this time.

Thelma McPherson
Columbus

1. No.
2. No.
3. I don't know.
4. Yes.
5. No.

Readers may have noticed in a later paper that charges against Crouch were dropped. I would have to say in light of the circumstances that it would have been better not to have run the story. Question 4 was answered "Yes," however, because his being black had nothing to do with it. If it were a mistake to have run the story, the same mistake would have been made had he been white. I have no idea about his religious persuasion. To ignore the issue would be to say, "Who cares?"—Editor

Humanist silence

Editor:

I cannot let your article stand without challenging your statement, "It is difficult to understand what particular good the minute of silence would have accomplished."

Obviously, your statement is theoretical, and I doubt that you ever taught school. Our school district includes 10 secondary schools. Several years ago, I substituted in all of these schools. One of the senior high schools saluted the flag and observed a moment of silent meditation each morning, immediately following the tardy bell. Every person in the building, in-

cluding those in the halls, participated. The other nine schools either "never did," "seldom did," or "did on Friday."

I assure you that the general behavior of the students in this one school was better than that of those in the other nine schools. (I now work at this school exclusively.)

Never underestimate the value of one moment of total silence, with head bowed and eyes closed.

Just in case you are not aware of the "unseen intent" of this suit, and all the others designed to deprive us of our liberty and freedom, filed by the atheistic humanists, I suggest that you read both of the humanist manifestos.

Sincerely,
Roberta M. Vogt
Oklahoma City

Mississippian in Utah

Editor:

My name is Nathan Simmons, and I am currently serving the Lord as a Mission pastor in Utah. I was born and raised in Mississippi and was licensed to preach at West Chapel Baptist Church in Winston County. The reason I am writing you is because we need your help in the work that the Lord has for his people in Utah.

We, as fellow Christians, need your support in many ways. I am corresponding with some people in Winston County, and I hear from a lady in Jackson on a regular basis; but the fact is, we need to hear from and receive support from the good people of Mississippi.

I would appreciate it if you would



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Still water runs deep

Soft spoken? Yes. But never underestimate Waudine Storey. Still water runs deep. Underneath her quiet manner lies a well of knowledge — both head and heart kinds.

Waudine retired Dec. 31 as GA/Mission Friends consultant for Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union. I've known her since she came to work in the Baptist Building in 1959 — or before. Her special goal in that job was, she told me, to train leaders of children to realize that every child is an individual who needs to be respected and loved, and to teach the leaders that their precepts and attitudes are important — because the child is going to catch the attitudes of the leader. "Head knowledge is not much good without heart knowledge," she stressed. "Feelings are important."

First thing in retirement, she's decided, she will decorate her house at 1012 Meadow Heights, near her church, Broadmoor in Jackson. I'd say that the money tree she was given at her retirement luncheon will come in handy in that project!

Also she's been offered a job teaching missions at Mississippi Baptist Seminary, Jackson (Woman's Missionary Union set up a chair of missions there a year or so ago.) She said she plans to accept that offer. Work with National Baptists has been a major part of her WMU job.

For a long time she directed three weeks of camp each summer at Sophie Sutton Assembly, Prentiss, working with Mrs. Alma Barnes, (as well as camps at Garaywa for Choctaws). She often visited black college campuses across the state to promote summer missions for college students. She has worked with National Baptist Women through the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, helping to publicize their meetings. I know that she has a special empathy with and love for her many National Baptist friends.

It was through Waudine that I have met a lot of National Baptists I would not otherwise have had the chance to know. Back in 1970 she asked me to write a mission study book to be published by the National Baptist Convention, concerning their mission work in Africa. I did (South of the Sahara), while Waudine supplied information,

and arranged interviews with fascinating people like the late John Falconer, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Monrovia, Liberia, and Cleopatra Thompson, professor of math at Jackson State University.

Waudine was born in Neshoba County and grew up in Philadelphia, the daughter of A. L. Storey and Jessie Perkins Storey. She is the sister of Faye Littlefield of West Point and of L. J. Storey of Baton Rouge, and the aunt of seven nieces and nephews. By the way, her grandfather, Lee Storey, was a Landmark Baptist preacher.

Ever since high school she has worked with children, including eight summers of work with the state Sunday School department, teaching Vacation Bible Schools all over Mississippi. Now she plans still to lead conferences on children's work, as opportunities arise.

After graduation from Clarke College and WMU Training School (now part of Southern Seminary), Louisville, Ky., she taught school three years, then took a job as promotional secretary at Lucas Avenue Church, Laurens, S.C. She served as minister of education at First, Philadelphia, First, Natchez, and First, Greenwood, before Miss Edwina Robinson, then state WMU director, asked her to come and be the state Sunbeam director.

"I was reared in a strong, well organized Southern Baptist church — First Baptist, Philadelphia," she said. That gave her the training that was a good foundation for all her later work. Some people she credits with influencing her early goals and thinking are her uncle, Jack Perkins, pioneer minister of music and education who lived in her home during his high school days; Mrs. Charles Treadway, one of her high school Sunday School teachers; and Mrs. Everett Cole, an education director at First, Philadelphia.

When I asked her what her worst problems have been in WMU, she said, "I've never considered problems. I see a challenge out there, not a problem." What annoys her is having to spend any time unproductively.

At her retirement party at Garaywa, Bob McKee, minister of education at Broadmoor, praised her work through her local church. Miss Ed said that she is creative, honest, and has stickability. She added, "I have watched her grow under the Spirit's guidance."

I appreciate Waudine's wit, her fairness and tolerance, her compassionate nature. I've had fun traveling with her to Tokyo to the Baptist World Alliance, enjoyed rooming with her in Columbus at the WMU convention, and have eaten her good cooking at her house. I've decided that one word Miss Ed used to describe her is the most accurate: Genuine.

Book Reviews

Commitment: The Cement of Love by Charles Edward Smith (Broadman, 128 pp., paper). Smith places the emphasis upon the most neglected biblical principle in human relationships — that of commitment. Working through the confusion of our day about the meaning of love, the author concludes that love is not love in the truest sense without commitment. He defines love as "the voluntary and deliberate exercise of the human will to meet the needs and best interests of another person in spite of what my feelings may be."

The book is an outgrowth of personal experience as well as situations from his professional counseling as he relates commitment to marriage and the family system and also to singles, whether by choice or not.

This is an exciting and readable book about a most significant biblical subject and one that is so often overlooked entirely or under emphasized. I am going to order several copies to use in marriage enrichment, as well as singles retreats. What a happy combination in a valuable resource! — J. Clark Hensley

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Hospital staff is aiding victims of Yemen quake

JIBLA, Yemen (BP)—The staff of Baptist Hospital in Jibla received authorization to bring additional surgical personnel into Yemen to help treat victims of the worst earthquake to strike the country in 16 centuries.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released \$15,000 in relief funds to Baptist representatives at the hospital on Dec. 15, the same day board personnel began trying to put

together a team of two orthopedic surgeons, a scrub nurse, and an aide.

The earthquake rolled across a mountainous region about 60 miles to the north of Jibla on Dec. 13. Early reports placed the number of confirmed dead at more than a thousand as the quake leveled at least 11 villages and heavily damaged more than 140 others.

Neither the hospital nor the safety of

Baptist representatives was jeopardized by the quake.

Dwellings of sun-baked brick crumbled during the initial 40-second quake and three aftershocks. About 250 children died when their school collapsed on them, state radio reported.

The epicenter of the quake, which measured six on the Richter Scale, was believed to be in the ancient city of Maareb, the biblical capital of the Queen of Sheba.

Golden Gate graduates 63

MILL VALLEY, CALIF.—Sixty-three students from 18 states and four foreign countries, including one from Mississippi, were graduated from Golden Gate Seminary during the institution's annual mid-term commencement December 10.

The Mississippian is Donald Tate Dent of Holly Springs. A graduate of Mississippi College, Dent was awarded the master of divinity degree.

Thursday, January 6, 1983

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Bill Boggess of Sturgis has resigned the pastorate of the Friendship Baptist Church to enter foreign missions under The Evangelical Alliance Mission. TEAM is a non-denominational mission board founded in 1890, and headquartered in Wheaton, IL. The Boggess family will enter deputation ministry at the beginning of the new year to raise their support so they can plant churches in France. They plan to be in France by August. They can be contacted through Emmanuel Baptist Church, 515 Scales St., Starkville, MS. 39759.

New Hope Church, Lawrence County, has ordained Kenney Wayne Tanksley as a deacon.

William M. Bridges of Falkner, Miss., has been awarded the master of divinity degree by Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. Bridges, who is pastor of Elm St. Baptist Church, Petersburg, Va., was among 113 graduates at mid-year commencement exercises at the seminary.

Donna Smith Thompson of Philadelphia, Miss., was awarded a diploma in educational ministry from Boyce Bible School during fall commencement Dec. 17 in Louisville, Ky. Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Seminary, was founded in 1974. David Q. Byrd, a Mississippian, is its director.

Richard Lynn (Ricky) Harvey of Jackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Harvey, Jackson, and a ministerial student at Mississippi College, has been offered a \$1,000 presidential preaching scholarship to Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., for 1983-84. Harvey is scheduled to graduate from Mississippi College in May, 1983.

Of the 17 Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary graduates for December, 1982, one was from Mississippi: master of divinity, James E. Jordan. Mid-America Seminary, in Memphis, Tenn., recently received full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.



Mt. Pleasant receives "fire" check

Mt. Pleasant Church, Smith Association, which was destroyed by fire, has been given a check for \$2,500 to go toward rebuilding, by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. From left are James T. Bryant, convention board member; David Howard, pastor of Mt. Pleasant; Mingo Gregory, building committee member; George Lowrey, committee member; Rupert Houston, committee chairman receiving the check; and J. T. Johnson, committee member. Other committee members are William Thornton, Odell Waddell, Curtis Craft, and Thomas Sanders. (Warren Collins Photo)

Missionary News

Billy and Gerry Colston, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 3411 Montevale Rd., Birmingham, Ala. 35213). He was born in Kosciusko.

Mrs. Virginia W. Oliver, missionary to Brazil, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Rebecca Poole, 613 Fitch St., Goldsboro, N.C. 27530). Born in Leslie, Ark., she lived in Alabama and Mississippi while growing up.

Jonathan and LaHoma Singleton, missionaries to the Windward Islands, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 7908 Westridge, Raytown, Mo. 64138). He is a native of Belzoni.

Flatters look like friends as wolves look like dogs.—George Chapman

Russell and Annette Herrington, missionaries to Costa Rica, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mrs. Margaret Horton, P.O. Box 1172, Rome, Ga. 30162). A native of Mississippi, he finished high school in Goodman.

Jimmy and Jean Barrentine, missionaries to Paraguay since 1975, resigned from missionary service effective Dec. 7. They were stationed in Encarnacion, Paraguay, where he served as a general evangelist and she was a church and home worker. They are natives of Mississippi.

Raymond and Martha Ann Kolb, missionaries to Brazil, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 117 Trailwood Dr., Clinton, Miss. 39056). He is a native of Blue Springs, Miss.



Bethany rebuilds after fire

Bethany Church near Meridian will dedicate its building on Jan. 9, debt free. The new sanctuary was constructed following a fire that destroyed the old one on Feb. 27, 1982. The pastor, Jimmie Garrard, recalls, "Our brothers and sisters in Christ gave to us prayers and money. We received from other churches around \$23,000, and from individuals around \$6,000. This was a great incentive for us to respond in our giving to rebuild." On Jan. 9, lunch at the church will follow the morning worship service. At 1 p.m., Hubert Greer will be presented in concert, and afterward the dedication service will be held. Garrard said, "We at Bethany thank each of those who have been so supportive during our rebuilding program."

Doug Warren has accepted the call as pastor of Andrew Chapel Baptist Church in Brandon. Serving as a bi-vocational pastor, he is also employed with the Mississippi Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind as a counselor for Hinds, Warren, and Simpson counties. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, and he and his family reside in Clinton, and can be contacted at 924-7592. He goes from the pastorate of the Old Silver Creek Baptist Church, Monticello.

Newton's Calvary Church has called Glenn D. Davis as pastor. Davis will move from the pastorate of New Zion Baptist Church, Covington, La. He is a native of Houston, Miss., and is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, and has done further study at Southwestern Seminary.

Ken Smith has accepted the pastorate of First Church, Greenville, and is moving there from the pastorate of Fellowship Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla. Smith was born at Starkville, Miss., and is a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Seminary.

Jimmy Martin has accepted the pastorate of Fernwood Church, Gulf Coast, and has moved there from Hattiesburg.

First, Wiggins, has called David Sartin as minister of activities and education. He formerly served in Lambert and West Point.

Odell Tebo has resigned his pastorate of Ridgecrest Church, Hattiesburg, to accept the pastorate of Good Hope Church, Leake County.

Cliff Temple Church, Natchez, has called Scott Thomas as minister of music and youth. He attended Mississippi College. His experience in youth and music ministry include Southern Hills Baptist Church, Natchez, and Patterson Baptist Church.

During December, his work with the youth included Christmas caroling, visitation, fellowship, Student Day at Christmas, and youth choir. Also he led the adult choir in the presentation of "Joy to the World," an original Christmas program. He will work also with the preschool and children choirs.

New York Convention executive resigns

SYRACUSE, N. Y. (BP)—Jack Lowndes, 58, executive secretary of the Baptist Convention of New York since 1975, has resigned, effective March 1, 1983.

Lowndes plans to return to the pastorate or some other type of church-related work.

Wallace Williams, pastor of Madison Baptist Church in Madison, N. J., and chairman of the executive board of the BCNY, said the board granted Lowndes a leave of absence in January and February "for rest and to re-evaluate his ministry."

"Differences in management" caused the amicable parting, both men agreed.

Lowndes has been president of the Home Mission Board's directors, vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission, and was chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives, 1969-72.

Gifts of Honor and Memory Nov. 26 - Dec. 25

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

Mr. Louis Adair
Josephine Holliday
W. H. Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Warren J. Reed
Mrs. Dot Adcock
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Gibson
Mr. Francis Neil Alsworth
WNU Night Circle
Sylvia Duckworth
Mr. & Mrs. P. E. Bates
Sunshine Sunday School Class
Mrs. Horace Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Thompson, Jr.
Mr. Ralph Alexander
Senior Adult Sunday School
Class
Mr. Clarence F. Allen
Rena Lara Baptist Church
Mrs. Helen Allen
"Edna"
Buddy Alston
Mr. & Mrs. R. S. McCrory
Stella Anderson
Mrs. Sue E. Harris
"Preacher" & Kate Applegate
Chief & Mrs. B. S. Hood
Mrs. Maude Arceneaux
Dolores D. Case
Mrs. Annie K. Arnold
Mrs. Carl (Evelyn) Arnold
Mrs. R. M. Currie
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Pearl Blakeney
Mr. T. G. (Bob) Ashley
Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Merrell
Mr. E. D. Atkins
Mr. & Mrs. S. B. Rieves
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Mrs. Joyce C. Aycock
Mr. Layne
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Sam & Audrey Brand
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Miss Dot Davis

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Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth J. Davis
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Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth J. Davis
Dr. & Mrs. Marlene W. Corey & Family
Mrs. C. L. Robertson
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth J. Davis
Mrs. Mace Davis
The Horst Family
Mr. James Cowan
Mrs. Sue E. Harris
Mr. Russell Creech
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Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Elliott
Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Barbee
Miss Beulah Culbertson
Slosser Harkins
Mr. James L. Darling
Mrs. Mamie K. Roberts
Mrs. Mace Davis
Mr. & Mrs. E. Wayne Smith
Mr. Claude (Bill) Diamond
Edgar & Nell Donahoe
Eddie Donahoe
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THE VILLAGE VIEW
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Just for the Record

Cloverdale Baptist Church, Natchez, celebrated its 30th anniversary Dec. 12, 1982. Herman Merritt, former pastor, brought the morning message. Lunch was served. At 1:30 came special music, reading of the church history, recognition of charter members, recognition of persons ordained to the ministry by Cloverdale Church, and recognition of former pastors. Ray Cowart, former pastor, brought the evening message.

Cloverdale Baptist Church began as a mission of First Baptist Church, Natchez, and was organized as a church June 15, 1952. The church now has a membership of 345, and a resident membership of 239. There are ten active deacons. David Manasco is pastor.

Renovation is underway at the George-Greene Baptist Center. The improvements will include brick veneer of the building, painting of outside woodwork, and repairs to the ceiling. Horace Glass is director of missions.

The Lamar Associational RA Day was held at Calvary Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, in the Oak Grove community. Hickory Grove's RA group took home the trophy, as "most outstanding."



AN RA RECOGNITION SERVICE was held recently in Eighth Avenue Baptist Church, Meridian, with nine RA boys receiving RA badges and pins. Back row: RA sponsors, Chris Brown, Everett Robinson, and Odell Crenshaw (l to r); front row: Steven Mosley, Jamie Brown, Tim Earley, Jamie Canterbury, Steven Earley, Keith Thorne, Brent Galatas, Jason Canterbury, and Paul Earley, II.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Southern Seminary has received a \$229,000 trust fund from the estate of Mary Cofer Trigg of Elizabethtown, Ky. Income from the undesignated endowment fund will supplement Southern's general operating budget, thus supporting the seminary in perpetuity.



FIRST CHURCH, GAUTIER, held an Acteens recognition service on Oct. 24. Renee Stringer was crowned queen. G.A. awards were given to Angie Price, Bonnie Barker, Stacy Foster, Leslie Koski, Kristie Haygood, and Vicki Haygood. Top row: Lisa Marks, Michelle Fitzhugh, Gina Brooks, Michele Gibson, Angie Price, Laurie Gautier. Middle row: Jennifer Foster, Sara Barker. Third row: Nikki Curry, Anne Stringer, Angie Curry, Kay Maghan, Jamie Griffin, Debra Irwin. Second row: Ember West, Delana Jackson, Vicki Hughes, Renee Stringer, Mary Greene. First row: Vicki Haygood, Kristie Haygood, Leslie Koski, Stacy Foster, Bonnie Barker. Fran Barker is Acteens director. Billy Williams is pastor.

Lee County to build office

Lee County Baptist Association is planning to build a new associational office, reports William P. Smith, III, director of missions.

The association in its fall meeting gave the Building Committee authority to go ahead with the project. A contract was signed Nov. 29 with Hardin Construction Co. of Ripley, to build the structure for \$55,000.

The association's executive committee has approved a site on Cliff Gookin Boulevard across from Hutcheson Tire Center in Tupelo. The cost of the site was \$12,500. With grading, parking lot, furnishings, equipment, and miscellaneous costs added, the total anticipated cost is \$98,500.

Smith reported that the association has \$46,000 in its building fund. Harry Martin, director of Community Development Foundation and a member of Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, is chairman of the associational building finance committee. Each church has a representative on the financial steering committee.



JAYESS CHURCH, LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION, held a recognition service for its mission organizations recently. Mrs. Mary Lou Boyd recognized seven Mission Friends: Russ Rutland, Brad King, Matthew Harris, Daniel Cothorn, Daniel Hawn, Shannon Bullock, Anna Cothorn. Mrs. Jackie Daley recognized girls who have completed Mission Adventures in Younger GA's: April Presnell, Melissa Daley, Renee Dillion. Nancy Townsend recognized girls for completion of Mission Adventures in Older GA's: Dee Criswell, Shelly Dillion, and Anna Powell—who has completed all Mission Adventures and been promoted into Acteens. Acteen leader, Mrs. Jackie Powell, recognized Jenny Boyd as Queen; and Missy Powell as Queen Regent with Scepter. RA leaders June Cothorn, Becky Hawn, Lavern Powell, Jo Lambert recognized Older RA's: Wayne Bourn, Todd Rutland, and Chris Hawn; Younger RA's: Kelly Greenlee, Todd Rutland, Jerry Hawn, Brian King, Lance Daley, Shane Bullock, Tim Hawn, Jimmy Bourn.

Baptist Women of the church served refreshments and gave a reception.

Hospital to expand in Bangalore

BANGALORE, India—Projected expansion at the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore, India, would increase the present 80-bed capacity by 12 to 16 beds. An increased patient load

prompted the decision to renovate unused space for patient use. The dental department also will expand from one to three chairs.

Devotional

Inspection time

By Earl Kelly, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The mechanic adjusted a fan belt, closed the car hood, looked at the windshield on the driver's side, leaned in the window of the car and said to me, "Your sticker is about to become invalid. You should have your car inspected." I thanked him and drove toward an inspection station. While waiting on the mechanic to complete the check list, I began to wonder if I could qualify for a spiritual sticker if a Divine Inspector were to check me. Join me in checking our lives against the following check points:

Registration and license. Many people claim to be Christians, but when examined in the light of scripture, they really have no authority to operate under the name Christian. "... I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

Lights. Are you lighting the highways of life or operating in darkness? "... God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:5-7).

Turn signals. Can others tell which direction you are taking? "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him" (1 John 2:10).

Brakes. Can you stop in time? Do your brakes work well in time of temptation? Sometimes brakes need relining or the master cylinder must be refilled with fluid. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Cor. 10:13).

Horn. The horn was designed to act as a safety measure to warn of possible danger. The horn that blows continuously has a short somewhere. "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (II Tim. 4:1-2).

How did you make out at the inspection station? If you received a sticker, then the world is a safer place in which to live, but, if not, then the peoples of our world are in danger.

Bookstore opens in Uganda

KAMPALA, Uganda (BP)—The bookstore in downtown Kampala, Uganda, was in chaos—ladders, buckets, lumber strewn everywhere.

Display shelves, bought with Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds, arrived a foot taller than ordered and the drawers came with no bottoms. But the missionaries proudly placed three tattered, used books on the shelf—just to see how they would look.

Almost immediately a distinguished-looking stranger in an expensive-looking business suit walked in, examined the books and asked if he could buy all three. The sight was such an incongruity that later the bookstore personnel couldn't keep from laughing, said Jim Rice, bookstore manager. "But it is an indication of the response we can expect."

With the help of members from nearby Kampala Baptist Church the former supermarket is used as a place for personal evangelism and counseling. In the first two weeks of operation 10 persons accepted Christ and joined weekly discipleship training classes. The building also houses the Bible Way Correspondence School headquarters and mission, convention and student ministry offices.

The bookstore was a result of more than two years of hard work. A year and a half after the mission granted permission for missionaries Jim and Linda Rice to launch the bookstore they finally cut the red tape and rented the supermarket building about 300 yards from the church and one block from Makerere University.

Then the Rices, missionaries Larry and Sharon Pumpelly, mission volunteers Russell Pogue and Fred and Ruby Clarkson, Ugandan students and others turned into carpenters and remodelers.

On opening day, however, the bookstore itself turned into a refuge. When the Ugandan army and police, in large numbers and heavily armed, raided a building across the street looking for a band of car thieves, people on the street took shelter in the bookstore.

Not one shot was fired but the store was introduced to more customers than expected.

Bible Book

Jewish guilt for sin

By Joe H. Tuten, pastor, Calvary, Jackson
Romans 2:13-20

The theme of Romans 1:1 through 3:20 is The Universality of Sin. Last Sunday's lesson, Romans 1:1-32, was a study of Gentile Guilt for Sin. They were guilty because they rejected God's revelation of himself to them through nature. The Jews were guilty, too. Our lesson Sunday studies Jewish Guilt for Sin, based on Romans 2:1 through 3:20.

God's judgment on all persons (2:1-16)

After arguing forcefully the guilt of the Gentiles, Paul turned immediately to declare that the Jews were guilty in two ways. They were guilty of judging the Gentiles while behaving like the Gentiles (2:1). They were guilty, also, of failing to keep the law (2:17-24) through which they had received revelation of the moral and ethical nature of God. All men, by their own nature, are and must be under God's judgment. No one can escape (2:3), nor should anyone desire to escape. God judges by his truth (2:2), to which man's moral and ethical potential are related. There is no partiality or bending with God (2:11). The Jews were not chosen because of their prestige but for God's purpose.

The Jews' failure to keep the law (2:17-24)

Paul used a series of questions to lead the Jews to face their failure to keep the law (2:21, 22, 23). Take note of the long preamble in 2:17 through 20. Observe the "therefore" in 2:21. Paul ended his very skillful argument in this passage with the severe indictment in 2:24. The Jews who had received the law, by their failure to keep and teach that law, had been part of the cause for the whole Gentile world to blaspheme God (2:24 and Isaiah 52:5).

The real Jew (2:25-29)

God established circumcision with Abraham as a sign of God's covenant with him and his seed (Genesis 17:9-14). Circumcision was not the covenant. The covenant itself was the covenant. And because God is a spirit (John 4:24), the covenant was a covenant between the Spirit of God and the spirit of man. It was spiritual. Because man is also physical, God, in deference to man and for the benefit of man, made physical circumcision a sign of the spiritual covenant.

Paul argued that true circumcision was in keeping "the ordinances of the law" (2:26). He clinched his argument by declaring, "He is a Jew who is one inwardly" (2:29). This was "strong medicine" coming, as it did, from a thoroughgoing Jew.

God's dealings with the Jews defended (3:1-8)

Paul proceeded to argue questions which he knew would spring immediately from Jewish minds (3:1, 3, 5, 7). The questions in verses 1 and 3 are answered affirmatively in verses 2 and 4. The questions in verses 5 and 7 are answered with further questions in verses 6 and 8. Paul buttressed this diatribe with the Jewish mindset with an emphasis upon the faithfulness of God (2:4, 6).

The Jews and the Gentiles equally guilty (3:9-20)

The Jewish mindset asked, "Are we better than they?" (3:9).

Paul answered, "No, in no wise" (3:9). He cited at least six Old Testament scriptures (Psalms 14:1-3; 5:6; 10:4; 10:7; 36:2; Isaiah 59:7-8) as a testimony of universal sin and to support his argument that Jews and Gentiles are equally guilty (3:9-18). Both Jews and Gentiles are accountable to God (3:19-20).

Jones to sponsor Pedal Point Clinic

The Jones County Baptist Association is sponsoring a Pedal Point Clinic for all church musicians, to be held June 20 from 7:30 until 9:30 p.m., at First Baptist Church, Ellisville.

The clinic will include training for pianists and organists. The musicians to teach the clinic are Jennie Lou Breland, pianist, and Wanda Robinson, organist. The cost for the conference will be \$5.00, payable at the conference. Associational music director is Al Moore from Wildwood Baptist Church, Laurel.

Carey convention to be a first

The William Carey College Student Government Association will be holding its campus first annual Mississippi Baptist Student Government Convention. This new organization will consist of student government leaders from all Baptist colleges in the state of Mississippi, plus Louisiana College.

The convention will be held on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 4 and 5. The purpose of the convention is to unite all student governments in order to discuss and help each other with the different challenges of each association.

Uniform

Teaching compassion

By John G. Armistead, pastor, Calvary, Tupelo
Luke 10:25-37

One of the most distinctive things we can say about Jesus is that he was a man of compassion. Again and again the gospel writers describe him as being moved with compassion. In this passage Jesus himself uses the word to characterize the attitude of one man and upheld that man's behavior as a model for us to emulate.

I. The imperative to love one's neighbor (10:25-28)

A man who was a specialist in the Mosaic law asked Jesus the question, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus responded by asking him how he interpreted the law's answer to that question. The man recited the two greatest commandments, to love God with one's total being (Deut. 6:5) and to love one's neighbor as oneself (Lev. 19:18).

Jesus affirmed that if a person did this, namely, love God and one's neighbor perfectly, he would live. Jesus is speaking of life both now and after death. Of course, Jesus himself was the only one to keep this twin imperative perfectly. Thus by God's grace alone we receive eternal life. Yet we are not at all released from allowing this imperative to completely govern our lives.

II. An example of loving one's neighbor (10:29-35)

Then the lawyer asked another question, "Who is my neighbor?" In other words, "What are the boundaries within which I can keep? Where do I draw the line?" Jewish orthodoxy interpreted one's neighbor as a fellow Jew, never a Samaritan or a foreigner.

Jesus answered with the familiar story of the man attacked by robbers on the dangerous road from Jerusalem to Jericho. Left half-dead, he was ignored by two travelers, both members of the religious establishment. Each "passed by on the other side" of the road. Here Jesus graphically paints the dismal picture of the failure to love someone and be a neighbor. Fear, lack of concern and lack of compassion hastened their feet away from the scene. A Samaritan (the mere mention of the word would have brought feelings of shock and contempt to Jesus' Jewish audience) stopped and administered first aid.

He was neither afraid to get involved nor to get his hands and clothing bloodied. He placed the helpless victim on his own animal of transportation and walked him to an inn. There he made provisions for extended care for the man. The Samaritan was willing to

become involved, to inconvenience himself, and to expend his own money.

His motivation, said Jesus, was "compassion" for the man. The Greek word translated "compassion" is from a root word meaning "the inward parts." Literally this was the viscera. Thus it metaphorically meant to feel deeply within oneself. That is how the Samaritan felt towards this stranger. He was moved to the depth of his being.

Jesus had not answered directly the lawyer's question yet by implication he has said it is more important to act like a neighbor to others than to speculate on who is my neighbor. He gives us here an ideal example of what loving one's neighbor means.

III. The definition of neighbor (10:36-37a)

Then Jesus returns to the man's question. He asked, "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell among thieves?" The lawyer is forced to reply, "The one that showed mercy on him." No doubt he could not bring himself to even utter the word "Samaritan."

Jesus was making it clear that the Jewish definition of neighbor was false. A neighbor is not just one of my own people or kind. The neighbor to be is a neighbor to a different culture, race, and religion. He was a member of a despised people. Thus, the word neighbor in God's command knows no national boundaries or any other kind of limitation. We are bound to act as a neighbor to everyone, regardless of race or creed, class or condition. Our compassion cannot be restricted, but completely open as with Jesus' Samaritan.

IV. The exhortation to be a neighbor (10:37b)

Then Jesus urged the lawyer to "go and do likewise." Be a neighbor to those in need. The lawyer knew God's word as few other men. He knew what God expected. Now, Jesus challenged, put it into practice! So it is with us. You know my word, Christ says. Now, go and do it!

Evangelism president

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (BP)—Otis Williams, director of evangelism for the Alabama Baptist Convention, Montgomery, Ala., was elected president of the Southern Baptist Fellowship of Evangelism directors.

Williams, former vice president of the group, succeeds Calvin Cantrell, associate director of evangelism for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, Alexandria.

Life and Work

Ministry of the Righteous One

By Beverly V. Tinnin, pastor, First, Meridian
Matthew 9

The problem of forgiveness and healing (9:2-7)

A false argument is frequently used to validate Christianity. That is, success is the evidence of God's pleasure whether in business, religion, or in health matters. A numerically strong church is proof of God's blessings upon the congregation. Good health is a result of spirituality and absence of sin in one's life. The fact that there are one billion Chinese communists and three hundred million Russian ones should still the voice that cries, "numbers make right." The prideful claim of superior righteousness that results in good health will certainly be muted in time by old age and inevitable declining health.

If this were the only story dealing with the subject, we might conclude Jesus accepted the relationship between sin and all suffering. In no other healing narrative did he suggest such. In fact, another time (John 9:1-3) he categorically denied it. Since he never indicated it again, and denied it another time, it is obvious he had something else in mind here. That something was his authority, not only over the bodies of men, but also of their minds and souls. He met all the human needs. Though they could not verify his ability to forgive sins, they could easily observe whether the paralyzed man responded when he commanded him to "get up and walk." Those with open minds who comprehended the totality of his authority were led not only to ask for healing, but forgiveness as well, which God offers. Christ's friendship for those rejected (vv. 10-13)

Matthew remembers his call to discipleship and the hostility Jesus encountered as a result as a member of the tax collector's profession he felt the hostility of the religious leaders. There were doubtless tax collectors who only took what the law prescribed from business and commerce. But enough of them extorted a great deal more than this to give a bad name to the whole profession. In order to get the job in the first place they had to collaborate with the Roman occupying forces. So when Jesus invited Matthew to become his disciple and accepted an invitation to dine with him and a large number of his friends he opened himself to the harsh kind of criticism from the Pharisees.

These religious leaders judged themselves to be righteous because

they scrupulously obeyed the forms and rituals of worship. They had little regard for the people, expressing contempt for them as they called them "harlots" (dirt).

Jesus by precept and example shows that people, not rituals of worship, are of the essence of importance. That not only are some people acceptable, God reaches out to all. That the only requisite to bring approved is repentance. Sadly, religion has frequently made adherents blind to their need for the great physician.

Elements in God's call (vv. 34-36)

No figure of speech figures as prominently in the Old and New Testament as that of the shepherd and sheep. The 23rd Psalm declares "The Lord is my shepherd." In John 10, Jesus assumes the role and affirms, "I am the good shepherd." Here the good shepherd sees the helplessness and hopelessness of people apart from him. The most vulnerable of all animals are the sheep; yet when protected and cared for by a good shepherd they are well fed and safe. This parallel drives home the force of the people's need for him.

Jesus then changes his metaphor to the crops in the field which are ready for harvest. There will be loss if there is any delay. But the point he drives home in this lesson is that it's God's crop and his plan for harvest must be observed. Matters are not to be taken into one's own hand, but conversation with God will produce his scenario. Then it is for us to take our place according to his plan in enlistment and labor. It is always a mistake to make plans and ask for God's blessings for them to succeed. It is an exercise in futility. The only operable way is to pray for direction and removal of resistance to God's will in our own lives.

The authority of Jesus is underscored by his ministry, his call, his shepherding, and his wise overseeing of the laborers and the harvest.

Off the Record

Judge: Did you see that shot that was fired?

Witness: I only heard it. Judge: That is pure hearsay and inadmissible as evidence.

As the witness left the stand and as his back was turned to the judge, he laughed out loud. At once the judge called him back and was about to hold him in contempt of court.

Witness: Did you see me laugh?

Judge: No, but I heard you. Witness: Isn't that the same kind of inadmissible evidence, Judge?